

MADAM'S THEATRE—8—Camille.  
 ACADEMY OF MUSIC—8—The Sporting Duchess.  
 BROADWAY THEATRE—8—An Artist's Model.  
 CASINO—8-15—The Wizard of the Nile.  
 CASINO CHAMBERS—8-15—Cabaret du Neant.  
 CHICKERING HALL—8-9—Concert.  
 "SUNSHINE" THEATRE—8-15—In Sight of St. Paul's.  
 DAILY'S—8-15—The Two Escutoches.  
 EDEN MUSEE—Concert.  
 EMPIRE THEATRE—8-15—A Woman's Reason.  
 FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—8-15—The Governor of Kentucky.  
 GARDEN THEATRE—8-15—Chimnie Fadden.  
 GAIRICK THEATRE—8-9-15—Mrs. Ponderbury's Past.  
 GRAND OPERA HOUSE—8—Princess and West's Minstrel.  
 HARLEM OPERA HOUSE—8-15—Mme. Sans Gene.  
 HERALD SQUARE THEATRE—8-10—The Heart of Maryland.  
 HOLT'S THEATRE—8-10—A Black Sheep.  
 IRVING PLACE THEATRE—8-15—Sie Wirt Gekneest.  
 KROSTER & HALL'S—8-15—Vaudeville.  
 LUTHERY THEATRE—8-15—The Benefit of the Doubt.  
 MORGENTHAU'S—8-15—The House of—Mamou.  
 OLYMPIA THEATRE—8-15—Vaudeville.  
 PALMER'S THEATRE—8-10—The Squire of Dames.  
 PASTORS—12-30 till 11 p. m.—Vaudeville.  
 PROCTOR'S PLEASURE PALACE—Vaudeville.  
 "ST. PAUL" THEATRE—8-15—The Strange Adventures of Miss Brown.  
 STAG THEATRE—8—Shannon River.  
 14TH STREET THEATRE—8-10—Mavourneen.

The sudden death of Ambassador Runyon in Berlin will cause genuine regret in this country, where his career as a lawyer and a judge won for him an enviable reputation. His appointment by President Cleveland as the representative of the United States at the German capital—a post where the traditions of George Bancroft, Bayard Taylor, Andrew D. White and William Walter Phelps are still fresh—was received with approval by all classes of citizens, Republicans as well as Democrats, and his management of the delicate task imposed upon him has brought out only words of praise and appreciation. In his death the Administration loses a faithful supporter and ornament, and the country a dignified and conspicuously able citizen.

Dr. Parkhurst has furnished another striking illustration of practical sagacity, courage and moral perception by coming out boldly in advocacy of the movement for a new Republican organization in this city at the hands of the Committee of Five Hundred. This he has done in the form of an interview which will be found in another column. It is one of the strongest statements of the case that have yet been made. His arraignment of the Platt-Lauterbach-Tammany combination is severe and sweeping. He does not mince matters; things are called by their right names, and the language that he employs can be understood by everybody.

The issues Dr. Parkhurst clearly perceives. Is not one of factional strife in the Republican ranks; not one of personalities; not whether the friends of Mr. Brookfield or Mr. Lauterbach, Mr. Bliss or Mr. Platt, shall control the party organization in this county; those are all incidental considerations. The vital question is essentially moral. Shall a great party's organization be built and maintained by fraudulent practices in order that it may be made an instrument for the undoing of all that has been accomplished here within the last three years for the cause of clean government and municipal reform? That is the issue, and the real issue, of the whole controversy. It cannot be obscured, and it will not be lost sight of by the honest Republicans of this city until a proper settlement has been made. What that settlement involves has already been indicated by another public-spirited clergyman, the Rev. Dr. R. Heber Newton, when he declared that the only effective protest against the existing state of things was an entirely new Republican organization. That is now inevitable.

A change has come over the spirit of the Transvaal dream. When the troubles there became acute, and Dr. Jameson was hurried into his ill-starred raid, there was a considerable outburst of emotion, not to say of hysteria, in this country. Public papers and public men, who ought to have known better, screamed out in red-hot passion; that it was another attempt at land-grabbing by the British Government, that none but Englishmen were concerned in it, that the malicious Outlanders were traitors to the best Government under the sun, and that they deserved to be shot or hanged every one of them. But now, lo and behold! These same hot-gospellers have discovered that a number of Americans were involved in the Johannesburg conspiracy, or at any rate, have been arrested as conspirators by the Transvaal Government, and are in prison and in danger of punishment. Wherefore the tunes are greatly changed. The Outlander universe is a holy crusade, and "Uncle Paul" Kruger is a holy man, and the British Government is a holy and glorious old tyrant, and we ought at once to send a fleet to Harburg to rescue the Americans.

majority in it, of course, since they form the majority of the whole white population of the Transvaal. But it was as well known to us, and to every one who would take pains to be informed, a month ago as it is to-day, that Americans and Germans and Dutchmen and men of other nationalities were in it just as deeply as the British. It was an uprising of the foreign settlers in the Transvaal, without regard to race or political affiliations; and its object was not annexation to the British Empire, nor the overthrow of the Republic, but redress for grievances that had become unendurable, and such political and social reform as would make the Transvaal a true Republic. In fact as well as in name. Among the members of the Johannesburg Reform Committee who were arrested along with Mr. Hammond, the American, and Mr. Phillips and Colonel Rhodes, the Englishmen, were Messrs. Leonard, Van Hulstain, Sauer and Aurel, who are Dutch Afrikaners or Boers, just as much as President Krüger himself, and Messrs. Langerman and Mosenthal who are Germans. It was preposterous to suppose that Americans, Germans and Dutchmen were conspiring to annex the Transvaal to the British Empire.

Now that the truth, long known, is performed and acknowledged, there is a great pothole over which is to be done about it. We take it for granted that the United States Government will be alert and energetic in maintaining the legal rights of its citizens. That means that it will demand for them prompt and fair trial under Transvaal law. Nothing more than that can be required. If Americans have broken the law, they must suffer the penalty, unless the Transvaal Government voluntarily pardons them. The United States Government might request such a pardon, but it cannot demand it. Much as I may sympathize with Mr. Hammond and his comrades, it can do nothing more for them than to see that they are treated according to law, just as citizens of the Transvaal would be treated here. That they will be treated even more leniently than the strict letter of the law re-

These late penalties, forfeiture of property and exile, are, we are persuaded, the worst that the American prisoners have to fear. As they are both strictly legal, this Government cannot forcibly protest against them. There is reason to believe, however, that by means of proper representations the Transvaal Government might be persuaded to commute wholesale confiscation into a mere fine. Of course, the bulk, if not all of the wealth of the Outlanders has been dug out of the soil and rocks of the Transvaal, so that there is a rude, primitive justice in decreeing that it shall be retained within that State, and not carried away by exiled traitors. Still, President Krüger has shown a generous and conciliatory disposition, and a desire to "forget and forgive." We may therefore hope that he will extend all possible clemency to the American Outlanders whom he has laid by the heels, in case they shall be found guilty of the crimes with which they are charged. As yet they have not been proven guilty, wherefore they are entitled to all possible consideration. That they shall get it will doubtless be the earnest care of the American Government.

The man is in a subject of pity who goes up and down wondering why business is not better. If he could only get outside the antiquated theories which imprison and stupefy his mind, natural common-sense would fix for him the chief causes without trouble. It is not possible, of course, to state with precision what proportion of the people of the United States is now out of employment. It is known to everybody who has practical sense that the number is large, though not as large as it was in the height of panic. A great number of wooden mills, many of the most experienced men believe from three-eighths to half of the entire producing capacity, are now unemployed. Many ironworks have stopped since the re-

The men at work do not and cannot buy as much for their families or for themselves as they bought when their industries were flourishing under adequate protection. The November report of foreign commerce tells, for instance, of 37,378,352 pounds of woollen cloths and 27,507,500 pounds of dress goods, besides 3,512,963 pounds of woollen yarns, imported within eleven months of 1895. In the same months of the previous year not 15,000,000 pounds of all these goods came in from abroad. The quantities imported in 1895, were considerably larger than the entire product of similar goods by all mills in the country not long ago, and constitute more than half the dress goods, and nearly half the all-wool goods consumed, and yet the consumption in a time when wages are low and multitudes are out of employment is of necessity smaller than usual. The people

This loss of work, and the heavy reduction of wages since 1892, have cut down the consuming power of the people. It is believed, fully a fifth. Of this there may be found much evidence in the records of actual payments through clearing-houses, for after the sudden improvement last summer and fall, caused to a great extent by replenishment of stocks of dealers, and obviously much exceeding the distribution of goods at that time to retail consumers, there has been a steady decrease in the volume of trade represented by such exchanges, so that it is now more than 20 per cent less than in the same weeks of previous years of prosperity. But it is not at all necessary to insist upon exact figures. Whether the decrease has been 15 per cent or 25 per cent matters very little, since it is obviously the main and the sufficient cause of that great decrease which appears in the demand for industrial products and in the volume of wholesale trade. Americans ought by this time to know that their pros-

perity always depends upon the consuming power of the millions. By no possibility can they make business prosperous for the importer, the wholesale merchant, or the manufacturer, unless they take care first of all to maintain the ability of the wage-earning millions to consume American products.

Sheriff Tamsen made a most magnificent speech at the dinner of the Second Panel of the Sheriff's Jury at Delmonico's on Thursday evening last. His voice was throbbing with anguish from the beginning to the end of his discourse. He declared with vehemence that a conspiracy had been formed against him, that he had been calumniated and maligned, persecuted and ill-used. He indulged in piteous references to the sword of Damocles, which, he said, was hanging over his head. Governor Morton has called upon Tamsen to answer certain grave charges, and to the Sheriff's terrified vision the legal document from Albany has assumed a shape as portentous as that of the dagger which Macbeth's murderous imagination conjured up. In his

dismay and distress Mr. Tamsen turned upon the men who had elected him, and he had a great deal of fault to find with the Reform movement which carried him into the place which he occupies. In trembling accents he insisted, however, that his conscience was clear, and that he had made every effort to do his duty. He endeavored to convince his hearers that the Sheriff of this county is an innocent martyr, suffering from every form of injury, abuse and outrage. If the men who listened to him had given full faith to his dismal description of the woes which he has suffered since he became Sheriff, they would have concluded that the speaker was as helpless, as despairing and as agonized a victim as the most wretched of Armenians suffering tortures at the hands of the most ruthless of Turks.

The people of New-York have been laboring under the impression that the Sheriff had a comfortable and enjoyable place, and that his salary of \$20,000 was adequate compensation for all the anxieties and responsibilities and burdens which he had assumed. Mr. Tamsen talked as if he had been pursued by a band of implacable enemies, who had made him a captive and thrust him into office against his fearful protests, and in spite of his melancholy appeals to be saved from so awful a fate. It has generally been supposed that Tamsen

Our present Sheriff has earned removal by economy for his many sins, both of omission and commission, and his wailings and lamentations over the afflictions which he has encountered will merely excite derision. Nobody compelled Tamsen to take the nomination for Sheriff. Nobody besought and entreated and begged and urged Tamsen to allow his name to be put on the ticket. There was no irresistible clamor from an excited and enthusiastic army of voters that he should come to the relief of New-York, and exalt our pride and reputation and glory by consenting to accept \$200,000 a year. People of common-sense look with contempt upon office-holders who seek for nominations without receiving a loud call for public service from their fellow-citizens, and who then, after getting into well-paid places, neglect their duties, and disgrace themselves and the city. Tamsen belongs to a class of officials who, after trouble has come upon them, begin to mourn and lament their fate, to prate about conspiracy and persecution, and yet to declare in woful accents that they are comforted and consoled by the approval of their consciences and by the conviction that they have done their full duty. If Tamsen's peculiar conscience is clear from his point of view, he could have kept it clear in private life. It was not necessary for him to strive to secure the emoluments of the Sheriff's office in order to keep his conscience clear. Even if he continues to lift up his voice in sorrow and to sob over the persecutions which he says have been heaped upon him, there will be no lack of candidates for the Shrievalty in this town hereafter. Tamsen ought never to have been nominated. He is not fit for public office, and nothing in his whole life will become him so much as his retirement into obscurity and oblivion.

**MONEY AND BUSINESS.**

Wheat, cotton, corn, pig-iron and stocks all have gained more or less during the last week. But woollen goods, cotton goods, finished products of iron and boots and shoes are all somewhat weaker, and neither supposed scarcity of supplies nor resulting dearthness of materials is evidence of growing prosperity. Stocks are recovering from their recent prostration, and have substantial improvement in earnings to assist, for the returns in the first half of January were not only 10.8 per cent larger than last year, but 2.2 per cent larger than in the same weeks of 1931. The records of tonnage moved, whether at Chicago, St. Louis or Indianapolis, show a decided increase over either of the last three years, and numerous complaints of rate-cutting, with the official action thereon by the association, indicate that the volume of farm

products moving eastward has increased decidedly more than the receipts of roads for transporting them. The improvement in stocks has a further cause in the better monetary outlook, although a close market is probable until the earlier payments for bonds have been completed.

Since monetary health depends very much upon liberal exports of products at this time, because imports continue large, the rapid advance in wheat may not be of benefit, except to speculators and such farmers as have not yet sold. It is not reasonable to credit reports of scarcity of wheat, because the movement of grain from farms has been remarkably full and free ever since AUGUST 1, so that receipts at the chief Western ports have been 139,800,000 bushels, against 107,709,000 last year, an increase of 30 per cent. Prices have been higher than last year, at present about 16 cents, which explains a more liberal movement, provided farmers have felt sure that the supplies were large enough to meet demands for the rest of the year, but decidedly not if they credited such stories as the Washington and some State officials have been circulating. Nor do Atlantic exports yet equal last year's, though for the three weeks of January about 1,900,000 bushels larger, but for the previous six months they have amounted to 46,354,004 bushels, they included, against 69,732,971 last year, while the Pacific exports have amounted to 18,918,287 in the same months, against 16,564,969 last year. It is a noteworthy fact that the visible supplies of wheat have increased only about 23,500,000 bushels since July 1, while the Atlantic exports, including flour, have been 14,200,000 less than last year, and the Western receipts much smaller. The frequent accounts of flour production beyond all precedents at the West may be that the quantity now held in the form of flour may be greater than usual. The price of wheat has advanced for the May option 2½ cents for the week.

The cotton market advanced an eighth, as it declined an eighth the week before, but with all the vigorous shouting and prediction of higher prices, the quotation is just where it was January 2, and a quarter lower than it was December 1. The decrease in receipts from plantations has been larger, 39 per cent this month against 50.2 per cent for the crop year thus far, but they have been 138,000 bales more than in

1892-3 to a date three days later, and 17,000 bales more this month, which data still point to a yield of about seven million bales. The takings of spinners have been 35 per cent less this month than last year, and 30 per cent less than in 1892, and the exports have been 50 per cent less than last year, and 23 per cent less than in 1892. These changes suffice to explain the indisposition of the market to advance with visible stocks of 3,355,016 bales American, though these have decreased 167,000 bales in January. Perhaps the most important fact is that the marketing of goods, both in Great Britain and here, has been

Pig iron is higher, because combinations have ordered higher prices for coke and ore, but white limestone, anthracite and Grey Forge, taken together, are 10.2 per cent higher than January 1. Prices of finished products, taken together, average lower, eight of the more important 1.7 per cent. The producers hope that consumers may again be compelled, so to speak, to hasten their buying as they did last year, when coke began to lift iron, but the situation is very different. The capacity of mills in operation is clearly far in excess to the actual demand, as it was then below demand. Though thirteen furnaces in the Pittsburgh region have stopped since the year began, some will doubtless resume if pig iron should be held at its present price. The refusal of the nail, rail and bar combinations to reduce prices, though much criticised, has its excuse in that they believe that the very slack demand for such products would not be materially increased by any change in prices at present. The minor metals are not stronger. Lake copper has been sold at 9.75 cents, and tin, though steadier, at 13.10 cents, with lead in smaller demand at 3.02. The price of anthracite coal has been cut to \$3.15 at New York, and \$3 at Boston.

The textile industries show no improvement, because the expected demand for goods, against which many mills have been producing in advance of orders, does not yet materialize. Further declines in cotton goods, including print

Foreign trade shows not much gain, exports keeping pace closely with last year's, while imports for four weeks have been about a million larger from this port. The increase in drygoods alone for the last week was about a million. The payments through clearing-houses are falling off, last week being only 6.5 per cent greater than last year, but 23.3 per cent less than in 1893, and the average daily for the month is 22.9 per cent less than in 1893. Banks are doing as little as they can in commercial paper, and this restricts all legitimate trade for a time, though it is hoped that markets will be easier when preparations for the new loan are over. Without doubt these preparations have locked up from ordinary commerce a great deal of money, and it is thought by many experienced men that the tightness of the market may be embarrassing before the time comes for actual payments to the Treasury. But this will depend largely upon the measure of practical sense shown by the Treasury Department.

**A NEW INSTRUMENT OF RESEARCH.**  
Few scientific discoveries have possessed such varied elements of interest as that which was announced a few days ago by Professor Röntgen, of Würzburg. It bears on certain abstruse theories relating to the existence and nature of ether, that weightless, omnipresent matter which physicists have found it necessary to imagine in order to explain a variety of phenomena. It will greatly stimulate research along several lines, and, in a host of possibilities, useful, comical and appalling, are suggested by the statement that a certain invisible radiance, partially or wholly unrecognized by physicists hitherto, will penetrate substances which are opaque to ordinary light, and will produce a photograph revealing something of the interior structure of an object. Not merely the popular fancy, but the cold, professional intellect also, is captivated by this wonderful story.

The fact that a photograph can be obtained by an agent which cannot be seen is not new. For years it has been possible to get pictures of the solar spectrum out beyond both visible ends, but especially beyond the violet end. And it is perhaps significant that the rays from this latter region have recently been found to possess distinct electrical properties. Just how close is the kinship between chemical and electrical operations it is not yet possible to say, but that some relation exists is beyond question. However, the ultra-violet ray of sunlight photographs only itself, and does so only when it has a free path to the sensitive film. On the other hand, the rays which have attracted the attention of the Würzburg investigator easily penetrate what are impassable barriers to ordinary light, and leave an image or shadow of the inside of the object on the photographic plate beyond.

The novelty in Professor Röntgen's discovery lies rather in the properties which he has found than in the particular form of energy which possesses them. Crookes had shown that when a current obtained from a powerful induction coil was discharged through a very high vacuum phosphorescent glow was produced in his tube quite unlike any other known light. As it seemed to emanate from the negative terminal or cathode, some physicists have called it the "cathode ray," and the effect was supposed to be produced by the bombardment of the interior of the tube by particles of gas violently driven from the negative electrode. So long as only phenomena within the inclosure were considered, such a theory seemed plausible enough, although it was not universally accepted. But it is now found that something or other reaches beyond the confines of the tube, and goes where the feeble illumination thus produced cannot reach. This revelation may oblige Crookes to overhaul his theories. Röntgen, in view of the newly observed effects, does not hesitate to pronounce the cathode ray, or, as he calls it, "the X ray," a vibration of the ether, a mere wave in the same sense that light, heat and electricity are.

The practical applications of the discovery, however, are more interesting to most people than these theoretical questions. And it is universally agreed that medical and surgical diagnosis affords one of the widest fields of usefulness for it. A great deal of experiment will be required, of course, to determine the conditions under which the cathode ray can be handled most effectively, what materials are most easily penetrated by it, and what variations in density and anatomical structure can be registered. It remains to be ascertained whether the position and size of the heart, for instance, can be distinguished with its aid, and whether a diseased condition of the lungs and other organs can be detected. How far the ribs will interfere with an examination of the upper cavity of the trunk, and whether the skull will preclude photographic scrutiny of the brain, are other questions yet to be solved. Can we thus tell with certainty whether or not to operate for appendicitis? And shall we have new light on fractures and gunshot wounds? These are problems of profound importance to humanity, and their solution will be awaited with feverish interest by millions of intelligent people.

The idea that the Brooklyn Postoffice might be consolidated with the postoffice in this city seems to have originated in the fertile imagination of some rabid advocate of the Greater New York. Brooklyn is doing very well in its postal business and has not the least desire to "double up," at least until after consolidation is an accomplished fact.

The happiest man in these parts in the present year of grace is undoubtedly Mr. David Hammell of Warren County, N. J. Away back in the sixties he registered a solemn vow that he would never enter his home again until New-Jersey had another Republican Governor. Nearly thirty years have passed, and during all that time he religiously adhered to his vow and refused to

have any communication with the members of his family, though he did not hesitate to draw supplies from his house and barn. As time went by, it is easy to believe that Hammell grew discouraged, and more than once he must have thought he was destined to die in the hut which he had built for himself without seeing the desire of his heart fulfilled. It was a glad day, therefore, when the news that Mr. Griggs had been elected Governor reached him, and a still gladder when the inauguration actually took place and Hammell was free to return to the bosom of his family. That he was warmly greeted goes without the saying. Such an incident reads like a page from a romance, rather than the sober record of an actual happening of our own time. Hammell disclosed qualities that in a more savage age might have sent him to the stake without a murmur. His conduct was utterly absurd, of course, but all the same it arouses a sense of admiration, as illustrating unwavering persistence in a cause, albeit a bad one.

Greater Boston has been postponed by an act of the Legislature, or by the Great and General Court, as the law-making body in the Bay State.

In the selection of his nocturnal itinerary, it cannot be said that Judge Houston displayed the judicial mind. Carmine and Varick, West Fourth-st. and the thoroughfares contiguous are not the most inviting places for a promenade three hours before midnight, to say nothing about three hours after, the period which the Judge strangely chose for his shadowy peripatetic. There would be small comfort in the declaration that he was lucky to get off with as little damage as he did, but he might have fared worse. His case will operate as a warning to night pedestrians to lay out their course with more discrimination.

The Rev. Dr. H. W. McKnight, president of Oxythyrup College, has tendered his resignation, to take effect June 1. He favored a liberal and progressive policy in the conduct of the college, which is a Lutheran institution; but his ideas have met with so much opposition that he deems it wise to resign.

Dr. W. R. Gowers, under whom Dr. Jameson studied, in the University College Hospital, writes thus of his pupil: "Jameson was characterized by a quiet manner, quick recognition of facts and steady, hard work. Whatever he did he did well, and gained distinction in everything he had in hand; but he never took a step out of his way to gain special honors. He was not a man to make many friends, but those he did make were close ones. As a student and officer of the hospital, no one could be more free from the least indication of self-assertion to those above him; but to his equals the strength of his own opinions, and the force of his arguments, he held them; were a complete feature—more conspicuous in expression than, probably, they were in fact."

Philo Parsons, whose death in Winchendon, Mass., is announced, was for many years one of the most prominent and public-spirited citizens of Detroit. He came of Revolutionary stock, and was born in Scipio, N. Y., seventy-nine years ago. At the age of twenty-six he went to Detroit, and engaged in the wholesale grocery business. He identified himself with the interests of Detroit, and in later years distinguished himself as a public benefactor. He took an active interest in the University of Michigan, and secured for it the Ran language from the University of Bonn, Germany, to Olney College, and many smaller sums to other institutions.

Lieutenant Evgind Astrup, whose dead body was recently found in the Lillevalle Valley, Norway, was the sixth of Lieutenant Peary's party who has died since returning from the expedition. In speaking of him, Evelyn F. Baldwin, the meteorologist of the expedition, says: "His death is a profound shock to me. Lieutenant Astrup was the son of a Swedish army officer, and on his return from the first Peary expedition he was appointed meteorologist of the Swedish Arctic expedition. On his return he took up his residence in Brooklyn, where his brother now lives, and he proposed coming to Chicago to study geology with me. We were fit ourselves for further Arctic explorations. He was only twenty-five years old, and would certainly have gained distinction in the field of scientific research. He was a very capable and scientific man, as he lectured in his own country and in the United States. His exploration of Melville Bay, in the north of Greenland, placed him in the front rank of explorers."

The committee of Rochester citizens recently appointed to raise funds for the erection of a monument in that city to the memory of the late Frederick Douglass appeals to all patriotic citizens for aid. The monument is to be placed in position in one of the public parks on August 1, and will cost somewhere about \$5,000. The bronze statue of Mr. Douglass will be eight feet high, and will be set on a nine and a half foot high base, with four bronze tablets, each containing a sample of the great leader of the colored race who may desire to contribute to this worthy cause can send money to the "Union Herald," "The Union and Advertiser," or "The Post-Express."

At the annual meeting of the National Divorce Reform League in Boston the other day, Bishop Lawrence, of Boston, was re-elected president and the Rev. S. W. Dike recording secretary. In his report Mr. Dike spoke of the recent improvement in State laws relative to work for legislation to raise the legal age of marriage to six sexes, provide for better systems of license, the better celebration of marriage and the stricter definition of the degrees of relationship. The marked increase of wholesome protection of the family in Western States is noted. Several considerations have kept the league from committing itself as a body to advocacy of uniformity of marriage and divorce laws through an amendment of the Constitution of the United States, but the movement for uniformity through State commissions is commended as the best present step.

There was a good deal of sound human nature in the unexpected reply of the dying old woman to her minister's leading question: "Here, at the end of a long life, which of the Lord's mercies are you most thankful for?" Her eyes brightened, and she answered, "My victuals."—(London Household News.

Statistics in the last printed report of the extension department of the University of the State of New-York show thirty-three libraries and institutes chartered, admitted and registered during the year ending September 30, 1924, and \$135,923 apportioned to libraries free to the public for borrowing or reference which had raised an equal amount. This \$270,846 represents only a fraction of the expenditure for libraries, as the remainder is paid to the State under their visitation, frequent applications for only a small part of the local revenues. Travelling libraries are in growing demand, and during the year have resulted in the establishment of permanent free public libraries in several places. In spite of the financial stringency, twenty extension centres were for work with thirty-one courses, five centres having been formed during the year. Extension work during the year has been concentrated on the following activity in such practical subjects as civics, good government, public health, hygiene, etc. Not only are extension methods suited to such study, but work of this kind finds the extension organization specially adapted to its purpose.

The Queen's message to Lady Coventry may serve to recall her very great concern for the safety of those known as "the boys" during the Zulu war of fifteen years ago. The Court was on Deedside at the time, and one morning, when Her Majesty was in bed, she sent word by Mrs. Glynne, who had just come in, and gravely said that there was bad news. The Queen, in much alarm, asked what it was, and he replied: "The young French Prince is killed." And that day the Queen lay awake, and could not go to bed until she had written him a letter, saying, "I am so glad that you are well, my dear little nephew, and I hope that you will sleep all night." And on the next evening she added: "Had a bad, restless night, haunted by this awful event, seeing how those horrid Zulus constantly before me, and how they would have done to-day if I had not been here two years ago; but no thought of it in presence of this frightful event."—(St. James's Gazette.)

The report of a recent tour made by President Krüger, of the Transvaal Republic, throws considerable light on his ideas of government. At one place a leading burgher wanted a compulsory education law. The President simply would not hear of it. "No, no," he curtly replied, "that is a Church question, not a political one." "But," urged another burgher, "why could we not have compulsory education as other countries have?" "Yes," replied the President, ignoring the case of England, "education is compulsory in other countries, but so is military service. This is a republic, and people may keep their children in ignorance if they please."

"You women are so ridiculous," said the magazine editor. "You get a dress for a reasonable amount—sometimes—and then go and pay about four or five times as much for the trimmings." "I do not see that I have any call to say anything," You pay \$1 for a story and \$5 to \$10 for the illustrations."—(*Cincinnati Enquirer*.)

"The Boston Globe" tells about certain stores in Boston where a commission is paid to the shopgirls when they succeed in selling goods at a figure above the regular price. "This commission," it says, "is well known among the girls as 'spiff.' In these 'spiff' stores, which are so called to distinguish them from what are known as 'honest' stores, the wages paid are not much lower, but the places are always in great demand, because a good salesgirl can make nearly twice as much in commissions as she would be paid in a store where there is no 'spiff.' These girls are among the 'most expert in the trade, and in time they acquire the greatest facility in swindling innocent shoppers. They are good judges of human nature, and can tell to a nicety just how much can be squeezed out of each customer. The silk counter is always in charge of the shrewdest girls, for it is only the expert can distinguish between the different grades, and the ordinary shopper can be charged a couple of dollars extra on a single sale without arousing the least suspicion. Most of the 'spiff,' however, is made from the discount of 'dead stock.'"